

# Improving Writing Skills in RN to BSN Programs

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## Purpose

- Develop innovative teaching modules to increase course pass rates of students enrolled in RN to BSN writing intensive courses.

## Background

- Scholarly writing in RN-BSN education is an essential curricular component yet is often identified as a significant barrier to student success.
- Student stress and challenges with written communication can hinder their success in the program.
- Nursing faculty need to design courses that accommodate the needs of students and provide effective writing resources.

## Methods

- A committee was formed consisting of four core faculty that led writing intensive courses.
- The committee met monthly from 2021 to 2022. To achieve the project goals, existing writing resources were reviewed, and new resources were developed.
- Modules addressed consistent barriers to student writing success which included: searching the literature, writing structure, plagiarism, APA, outline, introductory paragraph, and tips for writing success.
- These resources were then integrated into all RN to BSN writing courses. Program evaluation was completed with the core writing faculty.
- Descriptive statistics were used to describe differences in pre/post writing intervention.



Writing Course Pass Rates	
Spring 2021	Spring 2022
Prior to implementation	After implementation
86.5%	92%
n=74	n=88

## Results

- Prior to implementation of this program, in the Spring semester of 2021 86.5% (n=74) received a grade of 73% or higher.
- After implementation of the writing intensive modules, Spring of 2022 92% (n=88) received a passing grade of 73% or higher. Core faculty members teaching in the writing intensive courses observed a favorable trend.

## Limitations

- This project was implemented in a single university setting over one academic year potentially limiting the generalization of findings.

## Conclusions/Implications for Practice

- Development of a targeted writing initiative can improve success of RN to BSN students in writing intensive courses.

## References

- Hutchinson, J. & Pederson, J. (2023). "Writing right": A workshop approach to improving nursing students' writing. *SAGE Open Nursing*. 9. doi:10.1177/23779608231186059
- Riley, E. (2019). Exploring strategies to enhance scholarly writing for RN-BSN students using an online tutorial. *Teaching and Learning in Nursing*. 14(2) <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.teln.2018.12.011>